

Office to monitor the sales summary of every store everyday to ensure that they are selling the goods according to the codes.

- (iii) The supply/quality of grocery goods from the suppliers is subjected to Laboratory tests and given ratings which are based on certain norms prescribed by Kendriya Bhandar which are stricter than the norms laid under the provisions of Food Adulteration Act. Such a rating is taken into consideration while considering tenders of those suppliers for subsequent period. Warning is issued to those who fall below the prescribed rating.
- (iv) Kendriya Bhandar has initiated a process for obtaining indemnity from the suppliers regarding price guarantee to ensure that the customers get the best price.
- (v) Prepaid suggestion post cards have been kept in all the stores to get prompt feed back from the customers. Action is taken on complaints/suggestions received from the customers. In case of serious complaints, suppliers have been suspended or de-registered depending upon the gravity of the offence.
- (vi) Wherever possible, limited tenders are invited from the registered suppliers to generate competition among them.
- (vii) Last year nearly 125 employees were transferred to prevent them from developing vested interest. Some of them had not been transferred for many years.

Plan allocation for NER

* 498. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has prepared any plan allocation for the North-Eastern States based on the Shukla Commission's Report; and

(b) if so, how far the allocation for the Ninth Five Year Plan would improve the infrastructure in these States for their self-sustained development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Shukla Commission identified backlogs and gaps in Basic Minimum Services and infrastructure in the North-East and recommended measures for their elimination over a period of time. This objective is being pursued appropriately through the Five Year Plans and Annual Plans of the North-Eastern States and Central Ministries.

Sustainable development of a Region depends on a large number of factors, such as natural potential, availability of funds and effective delivery machinery. In addition to normal Plan allocations, steps have been taken through other supportive measures of the development of infrastructure and increase of sustainable employment, to ensure that the North-Eastern States and Sikkim join the mainstream of national growth. Towards this end, funds are also being provided from the Non-Lapsable Central Pool for various infrastructure projects in sectors such as irrigation & flood control, energy and transport to ensure development of the North-Eastern States.

Despite such assistance, economic growth of the North-Eastern States has not been as rapid as in other States. The Table shown in the statement (taken from the Economic Survey, 2000-01) indicates that the percentage increase in the Net State Domestic product over the period 1993-94 to 1998-99 has generally been less for the NE States as compared to other States. (*See below*).

However, it should be kept in mind that the NE States suffer from several constraints, some of them are beyond their capacity to rectify, at least in the short or medium term, such as

- Poor connectivity
- Geographical isolation
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Less developed formal credit
- Poor quality of land and low agricultural yields
- Little inflow of private capital
- Industrial backwardness, and
- Insurgency

Moreover, as opportunities for employment to the educated youth

arc extremely limited because of inadequate development of the secondary sector, Governments in these States have provided public employment to a very large number of people. This has resulted in massive increase in pension and salary payments, especially after the acceptance of the Fifth Pay Commission Report in 1997.

The adverse impact of these factors on economic development and asset creation has been exacerbated by weak delivery structures in these States. However, it is primarily for the State Governments to take remedial action for better implementation. Planning Commission has on several occasions drawn the attention of the State Governments to improve its implementation capacity and achieve sustainable growth.

Statement

Net State Domestic Product at Current Prices

New Series

Sl. State No.	Net State Domestic Product at Current Prices Average (New Series) Rs. Crore						Growth from 1993-94 to 1998-99
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	
ALL INDIA	685912	805981	941861	1E+06	1224787	1434456	15.90

North Eastern Region

1	Arunachal Pradesh	8557	9211	11035	10871	11738	12929	8.60
2	Assam	5715	6493	7001	7394	8026	8700	8.77
3	Manipur	6046	5664	6885	9062	9793	10599	11.88
4	Meghalaya	6703	7054	8034	8564	9565	10607	9.61
5	Mizoram	8158	8558	10563	11648	11667	NA	NA
6	Nagaland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
7	Tripura	5350	5385	6387	7440	8647	9187	11.42
8	Sikkim	7588	7948	9581	10990	NA	NA	NA

Sl. No.	State	Net State Domestic Product at Current Prices Average (New Series) - Rs. Crore						Growth from 1993-94 to 1998-99
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	
			Other States					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7494	8830	10039	11242	11701	.13853	13.07
2.	Bihar	3810	4245	4155	4965	5507	5923	9.23
3.	Delhi	17355	20417	21777	23540	25534	27693	9.80
4.	Goa	15602	17812	20040	23396	24309	NA	
5.	Gujarat	9997	13100	14248	16366	16998	18792	13.45
6.	Haryana	10970	12747	14145	16729	17426	19773	12.51
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7349	6573	9381	10455	11451	12692	11.55
8.	Jammu &	6543	6915	7783	8667	9491	10272	9.44
9.	Karnataka	8190	9508	10792	12729	13621	15889	14.17
10.	Kerala	7788	9432	11390	13089	15195	17756	17.92
11.	Madhya Pradesh	6645	7143	7806	8757	9209	10147	8.83
12.	Maharashtra	12326	13880	16460	18040	19799	22763	13.05
13.	Orissa	4877	5800	6978	6885	8103	8719	12.32
14.	Punjab	12701	13970	15376	17530	18865	20834	10.40
15.	Rajasthan	6251	7628	8361	9876	10189	11045	12.06
16.	Tamil Nadu	9073	10743	12096	13985	15798	17525	14.07
17.	Uttar Pradesh	5287	6064	6605	7637	8273	9261	11.86
18.	West Bengal	6702	7643	8947	9827	11464	12961	14.10
19.	A & N Island	14668	17075	17932	20150	NA	NA	NA
20.	Chandigarh	19921	22383	25827	29672	33216	NA	NA
21.	Pondicherry	9583	10665	11510	16268	18949	23135	19.28

Asian version of MIT Technology

*499. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab is negotiating with Indian officials about forming of an Asian version of the MIT technology incubator since India has tremendous potential in terms of human intellect and human resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the programmes proposed to be undertaken?